The Daily Eurofurence

Ringberg Hotel Suhl. Thursday, 27th August 2009 #2

Burgers, Beers and Welcome Cheers

Following a long standing tradition, Eurofurence greeted its attendees with a barbecue and welcome speeches on the terrace in front of the hotel.

"They're turning us all into vegetarians!", says a Finnish wolf and nibbles a grilled mushroom. Still, the steaks, sausages and burgers are by no means unpopular, as the long queues for the barbecue grills testify. A colourful salad buffet and an ice cream stand complete the tableau of flawless hospitality.

A large round table of British furs has formed in the middle of the terrace, laughing and cheering loudly. "Fifteen Euros for free beer refills isn't a bad deal," one of them comments on the flatrate catering concept. Meanwhile his drinking mates somewhat crudely encourage passers-by to lift up their shirts.

Even though some furs appear a bit high-sprited, everybody seems to be enjoying themselves. "I like the idea of everybody having dinner together," says Hossifer, a first time Eurofurence attendee from Philadelphia. "When we are at Anthrocon, we generally all go out in groups of five and eat in the city's restaurants."

Furs enjoying the welcome barbecue - and beer - on the terrace. photo: ang

Speech without Kage

At seven o' clock, Cheetah, Eurofurence's chairman, starts his traditional opening speech. He introduces this year's guest of honour, animator and costume builder Jimmy Chin, better known as Yippee Coyote. He also introduces three new team leads: Riffuchs (Con Operations), Hoyt (Logistics) and Gyroplast (Security). One traditional welcome speaker is missing this time: Uncle Kage and his parents are only arriving today.

As with every year, cars parked in the fire engine entry zone have to be removed. Many a fur blushes in shame when they hear their plate number read out. Amongst the giggles and nudges of their tablemates they get up to move their vehicle to the large secondary parking ground. As it is the first day of the convention, security kindly choose to forego the statutory punishment for this offence - buying a round of drinks for the whole security detail. *(lux)*

"We're no competitors to the Big Blue Dance"

Akeela and Han look forward to their party. photo: tam

An alternative party on Saturday Night? To some Eurofurence regulars, this sounds like blasphemy. But Akeela and Han don't intend to compete with the lauded Big Blue Dance. Instead, they say, they want to round off the range of choice with their event in the 40 Thieves bar.

"Not everybody enjoys BBF's flavour of dance music. At the alternative party, we will play rock, alternative, but also hip hop and some electro." Having started out as a Second Life party at Eurofurence 13, the party has evolved into an official event on the schedule. Still, Akeela likes to keep expectations low. "If twelve people come, I'm happy. If a hundred come, I'm scared!" *(lux)*

Tabbiefox: on furry in Slovakia

Tabbiefox, one of the organisers of Cesfur. photo: tam

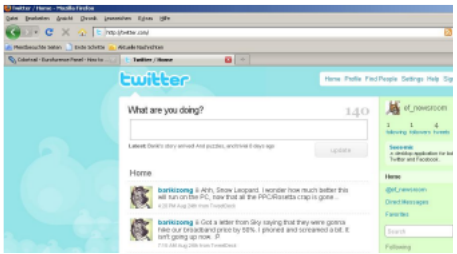
What holds furry Slovakia back?

Many furs here are students and have little money. There are some superb artists and fursuit builders here who deserve to have their work shown off, but they aren't getting the chance.

What do you think would help the local community to grow?

Better communication between the different local groups in Slovakia, perhaps a national website so that Slovakian furs could coordinate and arrange larger, more entertaining events. I'd also like to see the community get more involved internationally - see our artists and fursuit builders get their work out there. (*bar*)

Straight from the bird's beak



Tweet to the EF newsroom! screenshot: twitter.com

Some trends are here to stay and EF prides itself with the fact that we always try to be cutting-edge. Twitter is the "In-Thing" right now. Social Life and Events, News and Politics, no matter what field, Twitter has got a firm wedge into it. Celebreties love it, tyrants hate it and Joe Q. Puppy suddenly discovers that his everyday routines can become News in Twitter-land. Because of that, the EF-Newsroom is proud to present its very first, own Twitter feed. Tell us what's on your mind, share your ideas and wishes, send us feedback, all of this at #EF_Newsroom. A small selection will even see the light of the day as printed words, so use your 140 characters wisely. *(bli/cur)*

Hear that Engine Roar!

For some furs their rides can present much more than just a means of daily transportation.

These interests can easily range from furry-themed paint jobs to high-end tuning; for example, restoring classic cars or tweaking racing vehicles. Similarly, the use of the car can vary from just usual transportation to being practically a mobile base of operations. A closer look at the arriving cars revealed many smaller furry accessories here and there, but only a minority had gone further with the "furryfying" of their vehicles. Also, a handful of sporty automobiles were present, but no extensively customised rides were sighted.

Tigrenok at the wheel of his airbrushed car. photo: tam

Striped mobility

At the parking lot we met Tigrenok, whose car displayed some magnificent artwork. We found out that the highly realistic feline-themed visuals on his car were done at Tula, close to Moscow. The owner of the vehicle himself hails from Ischewsk, close to 1200 kilometers from Moscow. The artwork was based on actual photographs and in total took the artist about four days to complete. At first only the tiger was drawn, but the piece seemed to lack something, and thus for additional depth and detail the grass was added. When asked about the motivation for the visuals, he cites both displaying his furry nature and that 'it is just cute'. For those interested further, there will be an opportunity to meet others with similar interests at the Motofurs meeting, organized by Kyyanno Cheetah, taking place at the lower parking lot which starts at 13:30 on Saturday. *(hhp)*

Announcement

Fursuit Gameshow preliminaries start at 12pm. at the 40 Thieves bar. Sign up there!

Today's Timetable

Main Stage:

Gameshow ("Dead Furs...") 12:00-13:30

Magic Carpet Ride 15:00-16:30

Special Interest Groups

How to Improve Your Art (Room 1)
Jumpstyle (Room 2)
Video Editing (Room 4)
Fursuit Builder Round Table (Room 5)
all: 12:00-13:30

Subtitle Workshop (Room 1)
Pawpetshow: Behind Scenes (Room 2)
Meet the Guests (Room 4)
Cartoon Drawing (Room 5)
all: 13:30-15:00

Behind the Mascots (Room 2)
Road to Your Dreams (Room 4)
Author Reading Round Table (Room 5)
all: 15:00-16:30

Fursuit Construction 101 (Room 2)
Welcome to Eurofurence (Room 3)
Guided Meditation 1 (Room 4)
all: 16:30-18:00

Others

Fursuit Gameshow Preliminaries (Outdoors or 40 Thieves/Room 3) 12:00-15:00

Charity: Fortune Telling (Lobby) 16:00-18:00

* * * Dinnertime * * *

Main Stage:

Stage Fever 19:00-21:00

Fursuit Dance 21:30-02:00

Others:

Charity Pool Party 19:00-0:00

Skittle (40 Thieves) 20:00-00:00

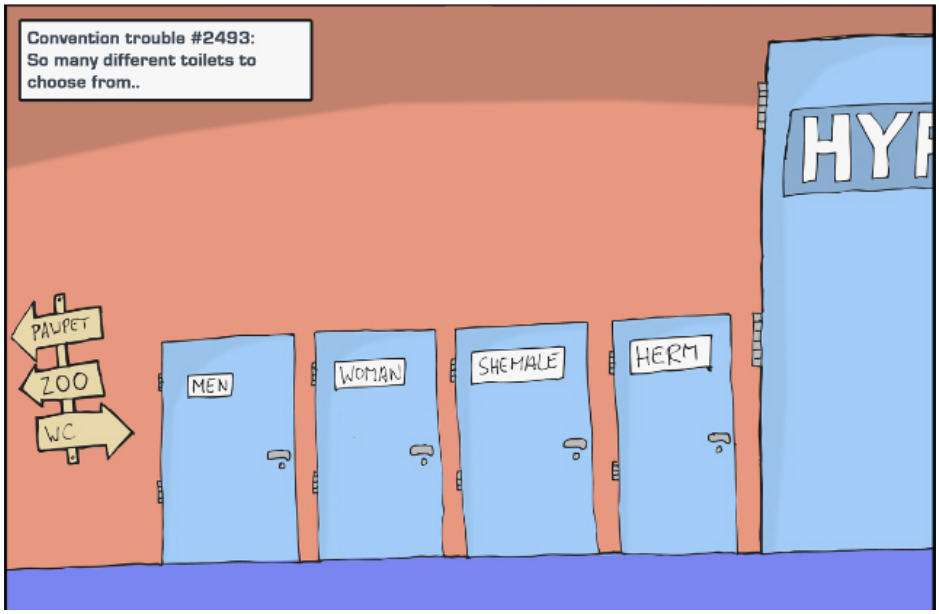
Xany's Game Corner (Room 2)
Artists Lounge (Room 3)
all: 19:00-02:00

Arabian Adventures (Room 4) 20:00-22:30

DDR Tournament (40 Thieves) 20:00-01:00

Convention Trouble

A Cartoon by Pegla



Starlit Encounter, pt 2

a story by Bariki

Twenty minutes passed by, with the stag's impatience growing in opposition to the level of his drink. As he drained the last mouthful from the glass and pondered another or simply going home, the lights at the bar dimmed and the little stage area adjacent to the door lit up. Eastern music began piping through the speakers in each corner of the room, and through the parting of the worn, red curtain of the stage emerged the most beautiful mare that Callum had ever seen. Her dish-shaped muzzle marked her as an Arabian, the flesh seemingly soft as velvet, each ear delicately pointed and perfect. The graceful curves of her neck and chest were adorned with a simple gold necklace and her belly by a blood red ruby somehow held in place in the mare's navel. The stag's eyes were drawn to the short, alluring dress that moved with the mare like tall grass in the wind as she curtsied and, in one fluid motion, cast her arms up above her and began to slowly sway in time with the music, the golden necklace shimmering in the stage lights, augmenting the exotic female's movements.

The stag sat motionless in his seat, mesmerised by the beauty in front of him as the dance continued, the mare's slender form moving with practiced ease across the stage. Time seemed to stand still for Callum: not in all his time in the Serenhara had he seen such a beautiful female, and never before in his life had one enchanted him so at first sight. She saw him gawping at her, and their eyes met for the first time – hers were a deep blue, the same as the sweltering sky here. She smiled at the stag, making his heart thump in his chest as the music came to a dramatic climax and the mare threw her arms up, head and tail snapping up as one before the silver hairs on her tail settled back down behind her. Applause rippled through the patrons as the grey mare curtsied again and slipped back through the curtains, Callum's eyes following every inch of her form until she disappeared from view.

to be continued!